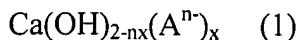


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Calcium hydroxide produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide, represented by the following formula (1):



(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of 0.01 to 0.2, and A^{n-} represents an anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.)

2. (Original) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein A^{n-} is $\text{SiO}(\text{OH})_3^-$, $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_4^-$, Cl^- , NO_3^- , H_2PO_4^- , $\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{O}_7^-$, $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$, $\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_6^{2-}$, HPO_4^{2-} , $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{O}_7^{2-}$, PO_4^{3-} , $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O}_7^{3-}$, SiO_4^{4-} , $\text{Si}_4\text{O}_8(\text{OH})_4^{4-}$ or a mixture thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein A^{n-} is $\text{SiO}(\text{OH})_3^-$, $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$, $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_4^-$ or a mixture thereof.

4. (Withdrawn) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the silicon-based compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of alkali silicate, a silicate, hydrated silicic acid, silicic acid anhydride, crystalline silicic acid, amorphous silica and an organosilicon compound.

5. (Withdrawn) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the phosphorus-based compound is at least one phosphorus-based compound selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, condensed phosphoric acid, polyphosphoric acid, and their salts.

6. (Withdrawn) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the aluminum-based compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of an aluminum salt, crystalline aluminum hydroxide, and amorphous aluminum hydroxide.

7. (Withdrawn) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the inorganic acid is at least one inorganic acid selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, and sulfuric acid.

8. (Original) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the organic acid is at least one organic acid selected from the group consisting of citric acid, tartaric acid, ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid, malic acid, succinic acid, and their salts.

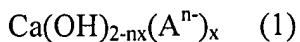
9. (Original) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, having an average secondary particle diameter measured by a laser diffraction scattering method of 0.1 to 10 μm .

10. (Original) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, having a BET method specific surface area of 5 to 40 m^2/g .

11. (Currently amended) The A surface-treated calcium hydroxide characterized in that the calcium hydroxide of claim 1[[],] which is surface-treated with at least one surface treating agent selected from the group consisting of (a) a higher fatty acid, (b) an alkali metal salt of a higher fatty acid, (c) a sulfuric ester of a higher alcohol, (d) an anionic surfactant, (e) a phosphoric ester, (f) a silane-, titanate- or aluminum-based coupling agent, (g) a fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol, (h) a sorbitan fatty acid ester and (i) a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.

12. (Currently amended) A resin composition comprising:

(i) 100 parts by weight of synthetic resin, and
(ii) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide, represented by the following formula (1):



(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of 0.001 to 0.2, and A^{n-}

represents an anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.)

13. (Original) The resin composition of claim 12, wherein Aⁿ⁻ is SiO(OH)₃⁻, Al(OH)₄⁻, Cl⁻, NO₃⁻, H₂PO₄⁻, C₆H₇O₇⁻, SiO₂(OH)₂²⁻, Si₂O₆(OH)₆²⁻, HPO₄²⁻, C₆H₆O₇²⁻, PO₄³⁻, C₆H₅O₇³⁻, SiO₄⁴⁻, Si₄O₈(OH)₄⁴⁻ or a mixture thereof.

14. (Withdrawn) The resin composition of claim 12, wherein Aⁿ⁻ is SiO(OH)₃⁻, SiO₂(OH)₂²⁻, Al(OH)₄⁻ or a mixture thereof.

15. (Original) The resin composition of claim 12, wherein the calcium hydroxide has an average secondary particle diameter measured by a laser diffraction scattering method of 0.1 to 10 μm .

16. (Original) The resin composition of claim 12, wherein the calcium hydroxide has a BET method specific surface area of 5 to 40 m^2/g .

17. (Currently amended) ~~The resin composition of claim 12, wherein the calcium hydroxide is surface treated~~ A resin composition comprising:

(i) 100 parts by weight of synthetic resin, and
(ii) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of surface-treated calcium hydroxide, wherein the surface-treated calcium hydroxide is a calcium hydroxide treated with at least one surface treating agent selected from the group consisting of (a) a higher fatty acid, (b) an alkali metal salt of a higher fatty acid, (c) a sulfuric ester of a higher alcohol, (d) an anionic surfactant, (e) a phosphoric ester, (f) a silane-, titanate- or aluminum-based coupling agent, (g) a fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol and (h) a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid on the surface of a calcium hydroxide produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide, represented by the following formula (1):

Ca(OH)_{2-nx}(Aⁿ⁻)_x (1)

(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of 0.001 to 0.2, and Aⁿ⁻ represents an anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid).

18. (Original) The resin composition of claim 12, wherein the synthetic resin is a polyvinyl chloride or fluorocarbon rubber.

19. (Original) The resin composition of claim 12, further comprising (iii) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of hydrotalcite.

20. (Original) The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the hydrotalcite is represented by the following formula (2):



(wherein Aⁿ⁻ represents ClO₄⁻, SO₄²⁻, CO₃²⁻ or a mixture thereof, and x, y, z and m satisfy y + z = 1, 0.1 ≤ x ≤ 0.5, 0.5 ≤ y ≤ 1, 0 ≤ z ≤ 0.5 and 0 ≤ m < 1.)

21. (Original) The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the weight ratio CH/HT of (ii) the calcium hydroxide (CH) to (iii) the hydrotalcite (HT) is 1/9 to 9/1.

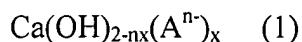
22. (Original) The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the hydrotalcite is a product calcined at 200°C or higher.

23. (Original) The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the hydrotalcite is surface-treated with at least one surface treating agent selected from the group consisting of (a) a higher fatty acid, (b) an alkali metal salt of a higher fatty acid, (c) a sulfuric ester of a higher alcohol, (d) an anionic surfactant, (e) a phosphoric ester, (f) a silane-, titanate- or aluminum-based coupling agent, (g) a fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol and (h) a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic

acid.

24. (Original) A molded article comprising the resin composition of claim 12.

25. (Currently amended) A stabilizer for synthetic resins which comprises a calcium hydroxide compound (CH) produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide, represented by the following formula (1):



(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of 0.001 to 0.2, and A^{n-} represents an anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.)

26. (Original) The stabilizer of claim 25, further comprising hydrotalcite (HT) and showing a CH/HT (weight) of 1/9 to 9/1.

27. (Currently amended) The stabilizer of claim 2526, wherein the hydrotalcite is represented by the following formula (2):



(wherein A^{n-} represents ClO_4^- , SO_4^{2-} , CO_3^{2-} or a mixture thereof, and x, y, z and m satisfy $y + z = 1$, $0.1 \leq x \leq 0.5$, $0.5 \leq y \leq 1$, $0 \leq z \leq 0.5$ and $0 \leq m < 1$.)

28. (New) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt is selected from the group consisting of calcium chloride and calcium nitrate.

29. (New) The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.